



D E V I Z E S R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1 9 7 2

C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page No.</u>
Members of Health and Housing Committee	1
Public Health Department Staff	2
Introductory Letter	3, 4, 5
General Statistics	6
Vital Statistics	7
Causes of death	8
Notification of Infectious Disease	9
Immunisations and vaccinations	10
Water Supply	11, 12
Sewerage	12
Common Lodging Houses	13
Services under the Food and Drugs Act 1955	13
Milk Supplies	13
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970	13
Poultry Inspections	13
Factories Act 1961	14, 15
Chief Public Health Inspector's contribution	16
Housing	17
Refuse	18
Ice-cream sampling	18
Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963	18
Keeping of animals	18
Meat inspection	19
Food surrendered and condemned	20
The Imported Food Regulations, 1968	20
Mobile food traders	20
Petroleum Acts	20
Clean Air Acts	20
Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order 1957	20
River Pollution	20
Public health complaints	21
Summary of inspections	21
Notices served under the Public Health Acts	21
Rodent Control	22
Noise	22
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	22
Housing Statistics Annual Return	Appendix 1.

D E V I Z E S R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L
(As at 31st December 1972)

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Harold G. Angell

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Michael W. Lesley

- oOo -

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Chairman - Mrs. C.T.W. Young
Vice-Chairman - Frank J. Oatridge

Mrs. K.N. Allen
V.G. Amor
J.M.R. Brierley
G.L.C. Brown
H. Carter
Major General Basil A. Coad C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.
J. Cox
E.S. Cross
W.E. Harding
J.R. Horton
M.W. Lesley
S.C. Mattock
J.H. Noble
P.C. Oram
E.G. Plank
Mrs. D.K. Robertson
K.J. Watkins
H.G.J. Wiltshire

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Acting Medical Officer of Health

F.D.F. STEEDE, M.B., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

D.W.E. JESSETT, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

J. THORNTON (commenced duties 31.1.72)

Rodent Operative

W.J. HARRISON

Clerical Staff

MRS. P. AMOR.

DEVIZES RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

=====
Health Department,
Browfort,
Devizes,
Wilts.

To The Chairman and Members of the Devizes Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1972 which is both the first and last I am likely to write since by the time one is in a position to write the 1973 Report N.H.S. Reorganisation will have extinguished the post of Medical Officer of Health. It may be of some interest to know that this will be just over one hundred years from the date when it became obligatory under the 1872 Public Health Act for every Urban and Rural Sanitary Authority to appoint a Medical Officer of Health. Although not mandatory many of the larger towns had already appointed Medical Officers under the earlier Public Health Act of 1848 and Liverpool, the first in the field, appointed Dr. Duncan as their Medical Officer of Health in 1847.

I am grateful to Mr. D.W.E. Jessett, the Chief Public Health Inspector, for his report which is included. I am also indebted to Dr. Lycett, the County Medical Officer of Health, for supplying details of immunisation procedures carried out during the year.

The estimated mid-year population figures show a slight increase of 515 on the 1971 Census figure of 15,875. Of the 256 deaths which occurred 47 were due to malignant disease of which lung cancer accounted for fifteen. Deaths from coronary heart disease occurred in 60 persons while pneumonia and bronchitis accounted for forty-one deaths. I believe it is well known generally that in approximately nine cases out of ten for practical purposes lung cancer is caused by cigarette smoking, that the incidence rate for coronary heart disease is much higher in smokers, particularly in younger smokers and that chronic bronchitis if not caused by the habit is severely adversely affected by it once acquired. I continue to be surprised by the hold the cigarette has particularly on intelligent people who continue to smoke in the knowledge that for many of them their health will be damaged and their expectation of life reduced.

Immunisation procedures reveal a satisfactory situation with 80.5% of eligible children receiving protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis. This figure is as high as perhaps we can realistically expect under the circumstances. The figure for Measles vaccination is unfortunately much less satisfactory. The County Health Department have given great priority to this matter in recent years and with great success. I hope the National Health Service will continue to do so.

The Council have, in the past, shown an imaginative approach to their housing responsibilities in spite of this the numbers on the waiting list at the end of the year show little change. The situation is slightly complicated due to the fact that there is undoubtedly a strong indication that there are a significant number of applicants who would prefer to be housed in or near Devizes. The true position with regard to where applicants prefer to be rehoused will become clearer as soon as the Kennet District Council are in a position to compile a list. The cost yardstick has given rise to considerable difficulties and has contributed I believe to a lowering of housing standards. While one has every sympathy with the need to keep building costs down, in my view it is inevitable that the standard of houses are suffering as a result. In particular I feel that it is false economy to build houses today without comprehensive thermal insulation, to include such items as double glazing and insulation to cavity walls. This is particularly important when one is catering for the needs of the elderly who are more readily adversely affected by cold, at a time when not only is fuel becoming increasingly expensive, but is likely to become scarce as well. I believe too that we should give greater consideration to the design of all houses, particularly to the ground floor to ensure that they can be easily negotiated by a person confined to a wheelchair. Such things as wider doorways and lever handles to taps and doors should become standard practice. If this were done there would in the long run be no basic increase in cost as at present when they have to be a special specification. Where sheltered housing for the elderly takes the form of grouped flatlets I believe it is necessary now to install a lift from the outset, since the lack of this facility is giving rise to considerable difficulties, particularly in those which have been in occupation for some years.

The water supply is the responsibility of the North Wilts Water Board which on the whole has been fairly satisfactory though in parts of the District dissolved iron has caused staining problems. None of the supplies are filtered and, therefore, dependance on chlorine for sterility means that frequent sampling is necessary to ensure that there is no failure. So far, no County decision has been reached to fluoridate the water in the interest of dental health which must eventually become standard practice. The delay however is most unfortunate.

This has been yet another exacting year for Local Authority staff and I am very pleased that the members of the Public Health Department, all credit to them, have managed to maintain their high standards of performance often in very difficult circumstances.

In my previous reports I have stressed the need to retain as far as possible the relationship between the Medical Adviser and the Chief Public Health Inspector in the new District Councils. In the Kennet District Council the recommended establishment allows for a Director who need not be a qualified Public Health Inspector in control of a Health and Housing Group of two divisions. One of these divisions will be concerned with public health, and will be the responsibility of an Environmental Health Officer, almost certainly a Public Health Inspector. This arrangement could lead to difficulties unless special provisions are made to allow for free unfettered two-way communications between the Medical Adviser and the Officer designated as Chief Environmental Health Officer at all times - particularly important in the control of communicable disease.

In his Annual Report the Chief Public Health Inspector of the Borough of Marlborough has referred to the wastage of young able Public Health Inspectors, where no less than three have left the profession over the past five years. In addition reorganisation has given a further adverse twist to the situation. In the six authorities for which I act, four of the Chief Public Health Inspectors are retiring under the special redundancy arrangements and one has been appointed as a Housing Manager for which public health training is not necessarily required although admittedly it is an advantage. Of the four who are retiring only two are approaching the normal retiring age. These are all experienced officers whose expertise in this field we can ill-afford to lose and I have little doubt that the situation is being replicated all over the Country. The future of public health depends very much on ensuring adequate recruitment to the profession both as to numbers and quality which in turn depend on a satisfactory career expectation. Since Public Health Inspectors, unlike Engineers, Surveyors and Financial Officers, virtually do not exist outside the local authority field, the responsibility for this is a matter for local government. I regret that unlike the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures the appointment of a Chief Public Health Inspector is no longer to be a statutory one. I am also sorry that Public Health Inspectors are to lose their security of tenure. A recent factor which will, I believe, adversely affect both public health and the Public Health Inspectorate is the almost certain loss of responsibility for the control of meat inspection and possibly too "meat based products" to the veterinary profession in order to comply and harmonise with E.E.C. procedures. This I regard as a retrograde step involving fragmentation of responsibility for food hygiene at local authority level on which I have made a special report to all my Councils.

Finally I should specifically like to thank Mr. Jessett and his staff, Dr. Lishman for acting as my Deputy, Dr. Wormald and the staff of the Public Health Laboratory for their continued help and frequent valued advice, and Mrs. P. Amor and Mrs. E. Noakes for their help and co-operation in preparing this annual report.

I have the Honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

F.D.F. STEEDE,
Acting Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	....	....	....	....	....	63,491
Registrar General's Estimated Mid Year Home Population						16,390
Rateable Value as at 31.3.73.	....	....	....	....	....	£1,193,199
Estimated Product of 1p Rate as at 31.3.73.						£11,500
Number of Council Houses as at 31.12.72.	....	....	....	....	....	1,219
Number of Inhabitable Dwellings as at 31.12.72.						5,121

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Total Births</u>	- Females	117
	Males	126
<u>Total Deaths</u>	- Females	134
	Males	121

Rates Per 1,000 population

	Birth Rate		Death Rate	
	1971	1972	1971	1972
Devizes Rural District	15.9	16.5	9.5	11.2
England and Wales	16.0	14.8	11.6	12.1
Wiltshire	17.4	16.4	11.6	10.9

		Total	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>
Live Births	....	241	223	18
Still Births	....	2	2	0
<u>Infant Deaths :</u>				
Under one year	....	4	4	0
Under four weeks	....	2	2	0
Under one week	....	1	1	0

(Vital Statistics Contd.)

MOTHER AND INFANTS

	1972	1971	1970	1969
<u>Live Births</u>				
Number	241	219	242	242
Rate per 1,000 population	16.5	15.9	17.5	17.9
Illegitimate live births (per cent of total live births)	7	4	4	3
<u>Still Births</u>				
Number	2	6	0	4
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	8	27	0	16
<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	243	225	242	246
<u>Deaths of Infants</u>				
Deaths under one year	4	4	3	2
<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>				
Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births	17	18	12	8
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 yr. per 1,000 legitimate live births	18	14	9	9
Deaths of illegitimate infants under one year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0	111	111	0
<u>Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u>				
Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 live births	8	9	8	8
<u>Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u>				
Deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births	4	9	8	8
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u>				
Still births and deaths under one week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	12	36	8	24

CAUSES OF DEATH 1972

The figures given below are taken from the Registrar General's Annual Report :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	0	7
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	2	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	12	3	15
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	2	0	2
Leukaemia	1	2	3
Other malignant neoplasms	6	2	8
Diabetes mellitus	1	1	2
Other endocrine, etc., diseases	0	1	1
Anaemias	0	1	1
Mental disorders	2	1	3
Multiple sclerosis	1	0	1
Other diseases of Nervous system	0	4	4
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	2	3
Hypertensive disease	1	2	3
Ischaemic heart disease	28	32	60
Other forms of heart disease	2	8	10
Cerebrovascular disease	14	16	30
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	5	8
Influenza	3	1	4
Pneumonia	17	21	38
Bronchitis and Emphysema	3	0	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	0	2
Peptic ulcer	2	0	2
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	0	2	2
Cirrhosis of liver	1	0	1
Other diseases of digestive system	1	1	2
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	0	1	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	0	1	1
Congenital anomalies	1	2	3
Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	0	2	2
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	1	4	5
Motor vehicle accidents	2	2	4
All other accidents	4	1	8
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	0	2	2
All other external causes	0	1	1
 TOTAL ALL CAUSES	121	134	255

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES OR FOOD POISONING

TABLE A

Incidence of diseases, notified by family doctors as occurring in mutually exclusive age groups of the population :-

Disease	0-4	5-14	15-44	45-64	65-74	All Ages
Measles	79	96	2	-	-	177
Tuberculosis	-	-	2	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	9	12	1	-	-	22

TABLE B

Incidence of diseases included in Table A as occurring within Parishes:-

	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis
All Cannings	1		
Bishops Cannings	14	2	
Bromham	2		
Easterton	14	1	
Erlestoke	15		
Etchilhampton	1		
Great Cheverell	3	1	
Market Lavington	35	10	
Marston	4		
Potterne	30	5	
Poulshot	7		
Roundway	37	1	2
Rowde	4		
Seend	2		
Stert		1	
Urchfont		1	
West Lavington	2		
Worton	6		
TOTAL	177	22	2

TABLE C

A comparison of Table A with the preceding five years :-

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Scarlet Fever	10	9	6	10	2	22
Measles	64	11	86	104	71	177
Whooping Cough	4	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	1	1	1	0	0	0
Tuberculosis	1	4	4	1	3	2
Infective Hepatitis	0	0	2	0	0	0
Food Poisoning	4	0	0	0	0	0

IMMUNISATION AND SMALLPOX VACCINATION STATISTICS

For providing the figures for immunisations and vaccinations carried out in the district during the year my thanks are due to the County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. C.D.L. Lycett.

		Children born in years							OTHERS under 16
		1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1963 - 67	1957 - 62	
Primary Immunisations Completed during 1972	Diphtheria	65	106	6	-	1	3	-	-
	Whooping Cough	65	102	5	-	1	3	-	-
	Measles	-	80	19	3	3	4	1	-
	Polio	67	101	2	1	-	-	-	-
	Tetanus	65	106	6	-	1	3	-	-
Reinforcing Immunisations given in 1972	Diphtheria	-	38	75	4	18	107	-	-
	Whooping Cough	-	18	45	3	-	5	-	-
	Tetanus	-	38	75	4	18	109	-	-
	Polio.	-	38	68	3	18	93	-	-

<u>SMALLPOX *</u>	M o n t h s				Y e a r s			
	Age Group	0 - 3	3 - 6	6 - 9	9 - 12	1	2 - 4	5 to 15
Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1
Re-vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	

* N.B. Vaccination discontinued as a routine measure in early childhood September 1971.

WATER SUPPLY

The following are the results of samples taken :-

Taken by the North Wilts Water Board	142
(132 satisfactory and 10 unsatisfactory)	
Taken by Public Health Inspectors	67
(Public supplies 23 satisfactory 2 unsatisfactory)	
(Private supplies 21 satisfactory 21 unsatisfactory)	

The North Wilts Water Board supplies .98% of the inhabitants of the Council's district. The Department have received no complaints of either lack of water supply or of low pressure.

The problem of discolouration continues and complaints are received from time to time from irate housewives from most parts of the district. The continued, general increase in demand, together with very heavy consumption at weekends, causes scouring of iron deposits from the mains.

New supplies, with pretreatment of the naturally occurring iron content, together with new mains, will gradually improve the situation.

The position in regard to water supply via public water mains (no water is supplied by public standpipe) is as follows :-

	No. of houses supplied from public water mains 1972.	Population supplied 1972.
Allcannings	139	440
Beechingstoke	50	210
Bishops Cannings	300	1171
Bromham	591	1811
Chirton	106	292
Easterton	150	491
Erlestoke	61	330
Etchilhampton	53	129
Great Cheverell	156	415
Little Cheverell	55	155
Marden	34	90
Market Lavington	499	1730
Marston	45	157
Patney	29	134
Potterne	543	1596
Poulshot	108	280
Roundway	468	2215
Rowde	325	942
Seend	370	1035
Stanton St. Bernard	42	160
Stert	35	132
Urchfont	285	822
West Lavington	362	1203
Worton	131	370

WATER SUPPLY (Contd.)

The District is supplied from six sources, the fluoride content of the supplies being as follows :-

Source	Expressed as fluoride content in parts per million
Chirton	0.1
Erlestoke	0.2
Great Cheverell	0.1
Chippenham	0.6
Bourton	0.1
Shepherds Shore	0.1

Fluoridation of Water Supplies

The Council have not considered the fluoridation of water supplies having previously resolved not to recommend this measure.

SEWERAGE

Main sewerage is now available in the following Parishes :-

Erlestoke	Bromham (including Westbrook, Hawkstreet and Netherstreet)
Market Lavington	
Urchfont (including Wedhampton)	Rowde
Seend (including Sells Green)	Stanton St. Bernard
Potterne	Etchilhampton
Great Cheverell	West Lavington
Worton	Little Cheverell
Chirton (including Conock)	Poulshot
Patney	Marston
Easterton	Marden
Bishops Cannings (including Coate, Bourton and Horton)	All Cannings (including Allington)

No new sewerage schemes have been completed during the year. The extension to the Urchfont works is now complete which will enable further development to take place and will receive the sewage from the Stert Village scheme which commenced in October at an approximate cost of £750 per dwelling.

The new sludge press at Woodbridge works is working well and dealing with sludge from a number of minor works. The extension to the works to deal with gross overloading is in the design stage.

Seend Cleeve scheme commenced in March, the sewage being pumped to the main Seend works.

The scheme for the joint Sewage Disposal Works at Potterne has been submitted to the Department of the Environment. This is a joint scheme with the Borough of Devizes which proposes the future treatment of all sewage from the Borough by an enlarged works at Potterne. In its first stage, the sewage now treated by Roundway Hospital works will be diverted to Woodbridge.

The Council has instituted a system of emptying of cesspools and septic tanks by direct labour, on payment.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the Council's district.

SERVICES UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

(a) Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus

No raw milk is sampled in the district.

The following samples of heat treated milk were taken: -

<u>Sterilised</u>	<u>Pasteurised</u>	<u>Pasteurised C.I.</u>	<u>U.H.T.</u>
27	27	12	24

All samples were found to satisfactorily comply with the respective Statutory tests.

(b) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970

The following table shows the number of premises to which the Regulations apply :-

General retail food shops	32
Licensed premises	45
Butchers' shops	7
Bakehouses	2
Fried Fish Shops	1
Hospitals, Schools and Institutes	43
Cafes and Licensed Premises serving meals regularly	7
Food Factories and Poultry packing establishments	4
<hr/>	
	141
<hr/>	

(c) Poultry Inspections

(i)	Number of poultry processing premises with district	2
(ii)	Number of visits to these premises	78
(iii)	Total number of birds processed during the year	445,267
(iv)	Type of birds processed	Ducks, Hens, Turkeys and Capons
(v)	Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	Nil turkeys 0.47% capons 1.71% hens 0.5% ducks
(vi)	Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption	7 tons
(vii)	Comments on Poultry Processing	Both processing plants are visited at regular intervals. One of the plant operators commenced building a new duck slaughterhouse which it is hoped will be in operation in late 1973 and will be an improvement on existing premises.

APPENDIX

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR
1972 FOR THE DEVIZES RURAL DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act 1961.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	58	40	5	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	61	43	5	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	4	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served and prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6) & (7)
Wearing Apparel } Making etc. } Cleaning } and } Washing	13	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	13	-	-	-	-

D E V I Z E S R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

Public Health Department,
Browfort,
Devizes,
Wiltshire.

Telephone Number : Devizes 3311

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year ended 31st December 1972.

The Department experienced considerable change of staff during the year. Dr. P.C. Barry left the services of the Council in November. Mr. E.W. Wright, Additional Public Health Inspector, left in September 1971.

Dr. F.D.F. Steede was appointed Acting Medical Officer of Health to succeed Dr. Barry and Mr. W.J. Thornton commenced duties as my assistant in January. I was fortunate in retaining for a short period, the temporary services of Mr. G.E. Williams.

The Department has been stretched to the full in the implementation and administration of improvement grants which have increased in number and complexity during the last three years.

The Council is to be congratulated on its policy of retaining by improvement and repair its stock of older dwellings.

I thank all members of the department for their willing co-operation and would also like to record my appreciation to Dr. Barry and Dr. Steede and all other Chief Officers for their help and advice.

D.W.E. JESSETT

Chief Public Health Inspector

HOUSING

Council Housing

A total of 47 dwellings were completed during the year. This figure includes 26 units of grouped accommodation at Angell House.

Private Housing

99 dwellings were constructed, mostly by state developers, to a high standard of amenity.

Improvements to Private Dwellings

The improvement of dwellings with the aid of grants continues apace, with the emphasis on improvement grants, and the number of standard grants falling. The number of dwellings completed with improvement grants was 27, and with standard grants 22.

In addition, the following have been approved during the year:-

Improvement Grants	54
Standard Grants	19

Improvements to Council Dwellings

7 pre-war Council houses were improved, leaving now only 4 without modern amenities, and these are scheduled for 1973.

The Council resolved to carry out further improvements, to the Parker Morris standard, to 130 pre-war dwellings, the work to start in 1973.

Slum Clearance

1 dwelling was demolished, and Undertakings were made in respect of 5 unfit dwellings. Informal representations to owners resulted in ten dwellings being made fit with the aid of grants.

Caravans

Site licences are in existence for 46 permanent and 45 holiday caravans.

The Council's policy is that, as existing site licences expire, new conditions requiring higher standards of amenity be imposed. These conditions include reference to the suitability of the caravan for permanent residence.

Housing - Annual Return

Appendix 1 shows the data provided by the Health Department for the County Medical Officer of Health.

REFUSE

Refuse collection and disposal is carried out by the Surveyor's department.

The Public Health department is responsible for dealing with rat infestation and the prevention of fly nuisance.

No complaints have been received in respect of the Council's tipping arrangements.

ICE-CREAM SAMPLES

No. of samples	Grade Results			
	I	II	III	IV
25	20	4	-	1

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

3 premises are registered and are inspected regularly. No contraventions of the Act have been noted.

KEEPING OF ANIMALS

A number of complaints were received in respect of smell nuisance arising from the disposal of manure in the form of slurry from pigs and poultry kept under intensive conditions.

The Chief Public Health Inspector has received members of the Working Party of the Department of Trade and Industry, who are investigating the problem of nuisances from intensive farming.

At two premises which have been the cause for considerable complaint for a number of years, the Department has, by coercion, threats, and the giving of advice, been able to remedy the nuisance.

MEAT INSPECTION

There are two registered and licensed slaughterhouses in this Council's district, one solely for the requirements of a single butcher; the other serving at most, three or four local butchers' shops.

The number of carcases inspected and condemned was as follows :-

	Cattle excluding ccws	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	599	47	5	509	667
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	1	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	46	8	-	1	12
Percentage of the number inspected and affected with disease	7.67%	17.02%	20.00%	0.19%	1.79%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with cysticercosis	--	-	-	-	-

Details of meat including offals condemned :-

From - Bovines 668 lbs.

Pigs 21 lbs.

Sheep 12 lbs.

701 lbs.

==

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Food surrendered and condemned

108 lbs. of various canned fruits were surrendered and condemned in 1972, plus 50 lbs. of canned meats.

11,937 lbs. of canned vegetables were surrendered and condemned. This included 9,900 lbs. of imported tomato puree and 2,000 lbs. of imported potatoes.

The Imported Food Regulations 1968

There are two depots in the district which receive food in bulk containers which are consigned direct from the port of entry. The sealed containers are opened at the depots and the contents inspected by the public health inspectors. Examples of food inspected: tinned fruit, dried milk, dehydrated onion, tomato paste, and raspberry pulp.

Close co-operation is maintained with the Health Departments of the ports of entry. Details of condemnations are listed under Food and Drugs Act 1955.

Mobile Food Traders

The number of mobile food traders has dropped during the last few years due to rising labour costs, and there are now only two or three travelling shops operating in the district.

All of the mobile food traders have been inspected on a number of occasions during the year, and apart from minor infringements, their hygiene is considered to be satisfactory.

PETROLEUM ACTS

The Chief Public Health Inspector is also designated 'Petroleum Officer' and is responsible for 70 installations.

There has been no notification of fire or injury due to the storage of petroleum.

CLEAN AIR ACTS

No complaints of smoke nuisance from industrial premises were received. Domestic garden bonfires gave rise to a number of problems, most of which were resolved on the basis of 'good neighbours give thought to wind direction when lighting bonfires'.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER 1957

The two licensed premises have received more attention as a result of requests from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Both premises observe the requirements of the legislation.

RIVER POLLUTION

A considerable number of applications to construct or re-design farm buildings are referred to the department for advice and observations on drainage arrangements. In cases where there is any possibility of farm drainage gaining access to watercourses, the appropriate River Board is notified.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPLAINTS

Type of Complaint	No.	Remedied	Outstanding	No action necessary
Housing (excluding Council Housing)	10	8	1	1
Water	12	12		
Sewerage	9	9		
Drainage	18	17	1	
Fly and insect infestation	7	7		
Keeping of animals and poultry	15	13	2	
Refuse and Tips	5	5		
Smoke	3	3		
River Pollution	1	1		
Food Complaints	2	2		
Rodent infestation	540	534		6
Miscellaneous	4	4		
	626	615	4	7

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Housing	380	Refuse	7
Nuisances	244	Factories	43
Drainage	82	Infectious diseases	22
Sewerage	51	Rodent control	92
Water supply	96	Diseases of Animals Act	8
Water samples	67	Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	
Dairies	28	Civic Amenities Act	51
Milk sampling	90	Building Inspections	20
Food inspection	342	Town & Country Planning	30
Food shops	132	Petroleum Regulations	14
Bakeries	4	Council houses	83
Animal Boarding Establishments	4	Miscellaneous	21
Smoke	4		491

NOTICES SERVED UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Statutory	Nil
Informal	35

NOTICES COMPLIED WITH

Statutory	Nil
Informal	41

ROENT CONTROL

Set out below is a Table showing details of visits and treatments carried out during the year and submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food :-

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
<u>PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS</u>		
1. Number of properties in district	4,800	845
2. a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	540	19
b. Number infested by (i) Rats	51	17
(ii) Mice	69	2
3. a. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	582	78
b. Number infested by (i) Rats	47	28
(ii) Mice	25	3

SEWERS

There were no sewers found to be infested by rats during the year.

NOISE

No complaints of noise nuisance have been received during the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number of premises registered is 31, all of which have been inspected during the year. Minor contraventions have been rectified by informal notification.

APPENDIX 1

Rural Housing Statistics for Year Ended 31st December, 1972

1. Number of dwellings in district at end of the year.	5,121
2. Number of permanent dwellings in the district owned by the local authority.	1,219
3. Number of temporary dwellings in the district owned by the local authority.	Nil
4. Number of applications for Council dwellings at end of the year.	442
5. Number of applications for transfers	104
6. <u>Inspections of dwellings during year:</u>	

Under Public Health Acts,

(i) Number of dwellings inspected	51
(ii) Number of dwellings found to be unfit	7
(iii) Number of dwellings made fit after informal action	7
(iv) Number of dwellings where formal notices were served	Nil
(v) Number of dwellings made fit after formal notice	Nil
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

Under Housing Acts,

(i) Number of dwellings inspected	132
(ii) Number of dwellings found to be unfit	6
(iii) Number of dwellings where informal notices were served	12
(iv) Number of dwellings made fit after informal action	31

Proceedings under Sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1957

(i) Number of dwellings where formal notices were served	Nil
(ii) Number of dwellings made fit after service of formal notice	Nil
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

Proceedings under Section 16 and 17 Housing Act, 1957

(i) Number of demolition orders made	Nil
(ii) Number of dwellings demolished as result of demolition orders	1
(iii) Number of undertakings accepted to make fit or not to re-let	5
(iv) Number of dwellings made fit as result of undertakings	3

APPENDIX 1 CONTD.

Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, 18, 26 and 35 Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26 Housing Act, 1961

- (i) Number of dwellings where closing orders were made Nil
- (ii) Number of dwellings closed as result of closing orders or undertakings by owners Nil

Proceedings under Sections 17, 42, 43, 46, and 48 Housing Act, 1957

- (i) Number of dwellings in clearance areas upon which demolition orders were made Nil
- (ii) Number of dwellings demolished as result of demolition orders Nil
- (iii) Number of dwellings in clearance areas which have been retained as temporary accommodation Nil

Proceedings under Section 76 Housing Act, 1957

- (i) Number of cases of overcrowding at end of year 2
- (ii) Number of cases of overcrowding discovered during year 1
- (iii) Number of cases of overcrowding abated during year 1

7. Dwellings erected or converted during year:

1.1.72 to 31.12.72	Dwellings completed	Gained from conversion of large houses into flats or dwellings	Lost from conversion of two or more houses into one, change of use, etc.
Local Authority	47	Nil	Nil
Private Enterprise	99	4	2
Housing Associations etc.	Nil	Nil	Nil

8. Improvement Grants completed under the Housing Acts, 1949 - 1969

1.1.72 to 31.12.72

Improvement Grants (Conversions & Improvements)		Standard Grants (All types)		Special Grants	
Number of dwellings completed	Amount of grants paid	Number of dwellings completed	Amount of grants paid	No. of dwellings completed	Amount of grants paid
27	£23, 662	22	£4,666	Nil	Nil

9. Housing Act, 1969, Part II

Number of Improvement areas declared under Sections 28(1) Nil

10. Housing Act 1969, Part III

Number of qualification certificates issued under Sections 45(2) and 46(3) 5

